

**§ 25.159 Time of tax determination and payment; offsets.**

(a) *Time and payment.* The tax on beer will be determined at the time of its removal for consumption or sale, and will be paid by return as provided in this part.

(b) *Offsets.* During any business day, the quantity of beer returned to the same brewery from which removed is to be taken as an offset against or deducted from the total quantity of beer removed for consumption or sale from that brewery on the day that the beer is returned.

(c) *Offsets not allowed.* An offset or deduction for returned beer will not be allowed if:

(1) The brewer was indemnified by insurance or otherwise in respect of the tax; or

(2) The brewer does not issue credit to the customer for the tax on the returned beer within 30 days of the return of the beer. If the tax is not timely credited after the offset or deduction is taken, the brewer shall make an increasing adjustment on the next tax return.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1334, as amended, 1335, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5054, 5056, 5061))

**§ 25.160 Tax adjustment for brewers who produce more than 2,000,000 barrels of beer.**

Each brewer who has paid tax on beer by return, Form 5000.24, at the reduced rate of tax during a calendar year, but whose production (or the production of a controlled group of brewers of which the brewer is a member) exceeds 2,000,000 barrels of beer in that calendar year, is no longer eligible to pay tax on beer at the reduced rate of tax for any beer removed that calendar year for consumption or sale. The brewer shall make a tax adjustment for the payment of additional tax no later than the return period in which production (or the production of a controlled group of brewers of which the brewer is a member) exceeds 2,000,000 barrels of beer. The adjustment will be determined by multiplying the difference between the higher and lower rates of tax applicable to beer by the number of barrels removed by the brewer that year at the reduced rate of tax. The

brewer shall make tax adjustments for all breweries where tax was paid at the lower rate that year, and shall include interest payable from the date on which tax was paid at the lower rate. In the case of a controlled group of brewers whose production exceeds 2,000,000 barrels of beer, all member brewers who paid tax at the lower rate shall make tax adjustments as determined in this section.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1333, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5051))

#### PREPARATION AND REMITTANCE OF TAX RETURNS

**§ 25.163 Method of tax payment.**

A brewer shall pay the tax on beer by return on TTB F 5000.24, as provided in §§ 25.164, 25.164a, 25.173, and 25.175. The brewer shall pay the tax by remittance at the time the tax return is rendered, and the remittance will be by check or money order payable to the "Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms" and mailed with the return, or will be effected by an electronic fund transfer. In paying the tax, a fractional part of a cent will be disregarded unless it amounts to one-half cent or more, in which case it will be increased to one cent.

[T.D. ATF-251, 52 FR 19314, May 22, 1987, as amended by T.D. ATF-365, 60 FR 33669, June 28, 1995; T.D. TTB-89, 76 FR 3511, Jan. 20, 2011]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: By T.D. TTB-89, 76 FR 3511, Jan. 20, 2011, § 25.163 was amended by revising the first sentence, effective Feb. 22, 2011 to Feb. 24, 2014.

**§ 25.164 Quarterly and semimonthly returns.**

(a) *Requirement for filing.* Each brewer shall pay the tax on beer (unless prepaid) by return on Form 5000.24. The brewer shall file Form 5000.24 as a return regardless of whether tax has been prepaid as provided in § 25.175 during the return period. The brewer shall file a return on Form 5000.24 for each return period even though no beer was removed for consumption or sale.

(b) *Payment of tax.* The brewer shall include for payment with the return the full amount of tax required to be determined (and which has not been

prepaid) on all beer removed for consumption or sale during the period covered by the return.

(c) *Return periods.* —(1) *Semimonthly return period.* Except in the case of a taxpayer who qualifies for, and chooses to use, quarterly return periods as provided in paragraph (c)(2) of this section, all taxpayers must use semimonthly return periods for deferred payment of tax. The semimonthly return periods run from the brewer's business day beginning on the first day of each month through the brewer's business day beginning on the 15th day of that month, and from the brewer's business day beginning on the 16th day of the month through the brewer's business day beginning on the last day of the month, except as otherwise provided in § 25.164a.

(2) *Quarterly return period.* A taxpayer may choose to use a quarterly return period if the taxpayer was not liable for more than \$50,000 in taxes with respect to beer imposed by 26 U.S.C. 5051 and 7652 in the preceding calendar year and if that taxpayer reasonably expects to be liable for not more than \$50,000 in such taxes during the current calendar year. In such a case the last day for paying the tax and filing the return shall be the 14th day after the last day of the calendar quarter. However, the taxpayer may not use the quarterly return period procedure for any portion of the calendar year following the first date on which the aggregate amount of tax due from the taxpayer during the calendar year exceeds \$50,000, and any tax that has not been paid on that date shall be due on the 14th day after the last day of the semimonthly period in which that date occurs. The following additional rules apply to the quarterly return period procedure under this section:

(i) A “taxpayer” is an individual, corporation, partnership, or other entity that is assigned a single Employer Identification Number as defined in 26 CFR 301.7701–12;

(ii) “Reasonably expects” means that there is no existing or anticipated circumstance known to the taxpayer (such as an increase in production capacity) that would cause the taxpayer's tax liability to exceed the prescribed limit;

(iii) A taxpayer with multiple locations must combine the beer tax liability for all locations to determine eligibility for the quarterly return procedure;

(iv) A taxpayer who has both domestic operations and import transactions must combine the beer tax liability on the domestic operations and the imports to determine eligibility for the quarterly return procedure;

(v) The controlled group rules of 26 U.S.C. 5061(e), which concern treatment of controlled groups as one taxpayer, do not apply for purposes of determining eligibility for the quarterly return procedure. However, a taxpayer who is eligible for the quarterly return procedure, and who is a member of a controlled group that owes \$5 million or more in beer excise taxes per year, is required to pay taxes by electronic fund transfer (EFT). Quarterly payments via EFT shall be transmitted in accordance with section 5061(e);

(vi) A new taxpayer is eligible to file quarterly returns in the first year of business simply if the taxpayer reasonably expects to be liable for not more than \$50,000 in beer taxes during that calendar year; and

(vii) If a taxpayer filing quarterly exceeds \$50,000 in tax liability during a taxable year and therefore must revert to the semimonthly return procedure, that taxpayer may resume quarterly payments only after a full calendar year has passed during which the taxpayer's liability did not exceed \$50,000.

(d) *Time for filing returns and paying tax.* Except as otherwise provided in § 25.164a for semimonthly tax returns, the brewer shall file the tax return, TTB F 5000.24, for each return period, and make remittance as required by this section, not later than the 14th day after the last day of the return period. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the return and remittance are due on the immediately preceding day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, except as otherwise provided in § 25.164a(c).

(e) *Timely filing.* (1) When the brewer sends the semimonthly or quarterly tax return, Form 5000.24, by U.S. mail, in accordance with the instructions on the form, as required by this section,

with remittance as provided for in this section, or without remittance as provided for in § 25.165, the date of the official postmark of the United States Postal Service stamped on the cover in which the return and remittance were mailed is considered the date of delivery of the return and the date of delivery of the remittance, if enclosed with the return. When the postmark on the cover is illegible, the burden is on the brewer to prove when the postmark was made.

(2) When the brewer sends the semi-monthly or quarterly return with or without remittance by registered mail or by certified mail, the date of registry or the date of the postmark on the sender's receipt of certified mail be treated as the date of delivery of the semi-monthly or quarterly return and of the remittance, if enclosed with the return.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0467)

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 775, as amended (26 U.S.C. 6302); sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1335, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5061))

[T.D. ATF-224, 51 FR 7673, Mar. 5, 1986, as amended by T.D. ATF-246, 52 FR 668, Jan. 8, 1987; T.D. ATF-251, 52 FR 19314, May 22, 1987, T.D. ATF-365, 60 FR 33669, June 28, 1995; T.D. TTB-41, 71 FR 5603, Feb. 2, 2006; T.D. TTB-89, 76 FR 3511, Jan. 20, 2011]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: By T.D. TTB-89, 76 FR 3511, Jan. 20, 2011, § 25.164 was amended by revising paragraphs (c) and (d), effective Feb. 22, 2011 to Feb. 24, 2014.

**§ 25.164a Special September rule for taxes due by semi-monthly return.**

(a) *Division of second semi-monthly period.*— (1) *General.* Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, the second semi-monthly period for the month of September is divided into two payment periods, from the 16th day through the 26th day, and from the 27th day through the 30th day. The brewer shall file a return, TTB F 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 16–26, no later than September 29. The brewer shall file a return on TTB F 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 27–30, no later than October 14.

(2) *Taxpayment not by electronic fund transfer.* In the case of taxes for which remittance by electronic fund transfer

(EFT) is not required by § 25.165, the second semi-monthly period of September is divided into two payment periods, from the 16th day through the 25th day, and from the 26th day through the 30th day. The brewer shall file a return on TTB F 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 16–25, no later than September 28. The brewer shall file a return on TTB F 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 26–30, no later than October 14.

(b) *Amount of payment—Safe harbor rule.*— (1) *General.* Taxpayers are considered to have met the requirements of paragraph (a)(1) of this section if the amount paid no later than September 29 is not less than 11/15ths (73.3 percent) of the tax liability incurred for the semi-monthly period beginning on September 1 and ending on September 15, and if any underpayment of tax is paid by October 14.

(2) *Taxpayment not by EFT.* Taxpayers are considered to have met the requirements of paragraph (a)(2) of this section if the amount paid no later than September 28 is not less than 2/3rds (66.7 percent) of the tax liability incurred for the semi-monthly period beginning on September 1 and ending on September 15, and if any underpayment of tax is paid by October 14.

(c) *Weekends and holidays.* If the required taxpayment due date for the period September 16–25 or September 16–26, as applicable, falls on a Saturday or legal holiday, the return and remittance are due on the immediately preceding day. If the required due date falls on a Sunday, the return and remittance are due on the immediately following day.

(d) *Example: Payment of tax for the month of September.*— (1) *Facts.* X, a brewer required to pay taxes by electronic fund transfer, incurred tax liability in the amount of \$30,000 for the first semi-monthly period of September. For the period September 16–26, X incurred tax liability in the amount of \$45,000, and for the period September 27–30, X incurred tax liability in the amount of \$2,000.

(2) *Payment requirement.* X's payment of tax in the amount of \$30,000 for the first semi-monthly period of September is due no later than September 29